

Save Water/\$ave Dollars

April Water Conservation Tip:

Be Water Wise – It's all about the numbers!

A typical bathroom faucet uses up to **3.5** gallons per minute. Installing a faucet aerator can cut that use by nearly two-thirds! Turning off the water while brushing your teeth can save **2** or more gallons per brushing! Using no more than a sink-full of water instead of running the faucet while shaving can save nearly **20** gallons!

A standard showerhead can use up to **5** gallons per minute. A low-flow showerhead can get you just as clean and use less than **1/2** the water! Even better, install a low-flow showerhead with a shut-off lever or button and turn the water off while you lather up!

Run washing machines and dishwashers at the most economical settings and your water savings can really add up! Dishwashers average **16** gallons per load on the pot-scrubber cycle, and only **9** gallons per load on the short/energy-saver cycle. Washing machines are larger these days, and can use up to **48** gallons per load. Make sure you wash only full loads, or set the water level to the minimum recommended level for the size of your load.



Water Info Now EMPACT News

If you're interested in water quality and want to learn more about the water you drink, then you might want to pick up the EMPACT News, a newsletter focusing on those topics. EMPACT News is published by Tucson Water and its community partners who are working together with a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to develop new ways of getting water quality information to you. To get on the EMPACT News mailing list call 791-5080, ext. 1372.



On the Water Front

Imagine my surprise recently when I picked up a prominent east coast newspaper and read that Arizona now was starting to respond to its long-term drought conditions. The article said Arizona cities were beginning to take water conservation

seriously because of the lower than average precipitation we've experienced in recent years!

I immediately wrote a letter to the editors of that well-respected paper and told them that, contrary to what they had written, Tucson has a long-standing community commitment to water conservation. I pointed out that we have been using water wisely since the mid-1970s and as a result, have one of the lowest per capita water use rates in the southwestern United States.

I'm sure they were also interested to learn that, since 1984, it has been illegal in Tucson to allow water to escape from private property onto another person's property or onto public property such as alleys and streets. Tucson Water is also unique in that we have a full-time citation officer or "water cop" who investigates all reported cases of water waste. He also looks for evidence of water waste as he patrols Tucson's streets. We've had both a plumbing ordinance requiring low-flow fixtures and a landscaping ordinance limiting high-water use plantings for more than 12 years. We also have had a Mandatory Conservation ordinance on the books since 1995, which would allow the City Council to restrict or eliminate all outdoor water use should a water supply shortage threaten public health and safety. But I made it clear that we have not had to resort to mandatory controls because

Tucsonans have always responded so well to calls for voluntary conservation.

Finally, I invited the editors to learn more about water conservation by visiting the Tucson Water web site at www.cityoftucson.org/water.

It's interesting that in other parts of the country, where cities are located on major rivers or rainfall levels are high, people think of water conservation as an emergency measure. In Tucson, using water wisely has become a part of our daily lives, because we understand just how important this precious resource is.



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Visit the Tucson Water Web Site at <http://www.cityoftucson.org/water>

Your Water Connection is produced by Tucson Water. To receive a copy, or to receive this information in Spanish, call 791-4331 or mail your request to: Customer Information, P.O. Box 27210, Tucson, AZ 85726-7210.



City of Tucson TTY number: 791-2639

Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor, llame al 791-4331.

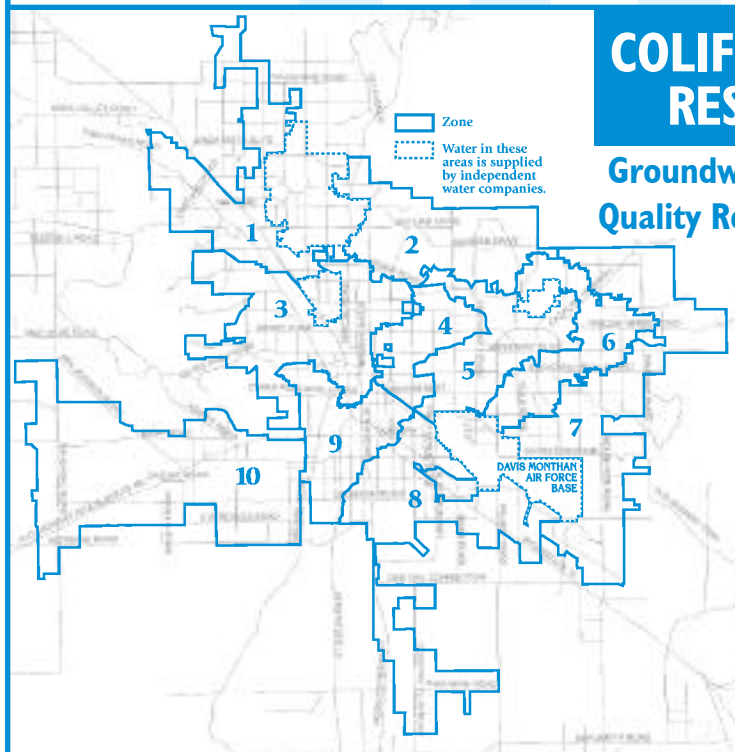
Clearwater Quality Report - March 2003

47	Sodium (ppm)
284.0	Mineral Content (ppm)
109*	Hardness (ppm)
8.1	pH (units)
Neg*	Coliform Bacteria
0.91	Chlorine level average (ppm)
79.8	Temp (deg F)

* Values for February 2003

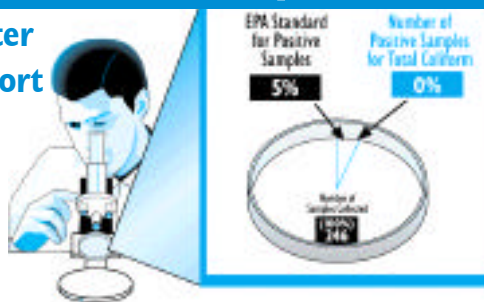
GROUNDWATER QUALITY REPORT - January 2003

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (ppm)	Average	43	46	49	39	41	41	29	43	45	38	41
	Range	40-45	44-48	32-58	28-55	38-48	25-48	22-46	42-45	37-53	37-40	22-58
Mineral Content (ppm)	Average	392	295	337	254	253	243	217	379	335	207	285
	Range	178-548	254-332	168-443	183-408	232-287	205-271	179-255	271-445	202-484	202-212	168-548
Hardness (ppm)	Average	238	132	173	103	103	99	102	221	158	78	133
	Range	98-317	95-160	104-215	67-203	94-123	78-107	86-113	205-260	79-252	75-80	67-317
pH (units)	Average	7.7	8.0	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.5	7.5	7.8	7.8
	Range	7.5-8.1	7.8-8.3	7.3-8.2	7.5-8.3	7.3-8.3	7.6-8.4	7.7-8.2	7.2-7.9	7.2-7.9	7.4-8.0	7.2-8.4
Temperature (deg F)	Average	72	72	70	74	72	72	71	72	74	73	72
	Range	67-75	63-81	65-77	63-85	66-84	62-81	64-78	64-76	62-82	66-82	62-85

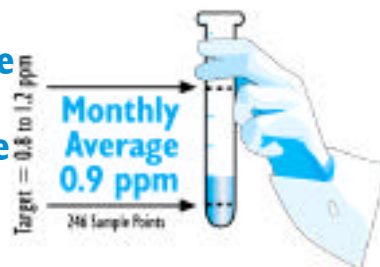


COLIFORM BACTERIA TESTING RESULTS - January 2003

Groundwater Quality Report



Chlorine Level Average



“PPM” means one part per million; 1 ppm = 1 teaspoon in 1,320 gallons

To give you a more accurate measurement of the water quality in your neighborhood, the Tucson Water service area has been divided into 10 zones

based on differences in water pressure and water quality. For a detailed description of the zone boundaries, call 791-4331.

Water 101

Where Does Our Water Come From, Part 3

Tucson has three water sources – groundwater, Colorado River water, and reclaimed water. This month we'll focus on that third water resource.

Reclaimed Water

Because it is produced by treating wastewater, reclaimed water is a renewable resource that will always be available to us. Tucson Water's reclaimed water system was first used in 1984 and has since grown to nearly 100 miles of pipelines, and is operated separately from our drinking water system. Reclaimed water is used at more than 600 sites in the Tucson area, including 13 golf courses, 28 parks, and 40 schools, including the University of Arizona and Pima Community College.

Reclaimed water is created through a multi-stage advanced treatment process that cleans wastewater to a standard good enough for turf and landscape irrigation, and suitable for some industrial uses such as cooling towers.

Using reclaimed water for irrigation saves our precious drinking water. In 2002, reclaimed water use saved 3.4 billion gallons of drinking water. That's enough to serve more than 31,000 Tucson families for a year!

Our Water Resources

Our community is fortunate to have three distinct water resources that can be used to meet the needs of its citizens. It's because of the foresight, careful planning, and hard work of a great many people over many years that we have this unique combination of groundwater, Colorado River water, and reclaimed water available today. While our water resources are quite different in many respects, they have one thing in common – they are absolutely necessary to the survival of our community in this desert environment.



The Future of Reclaimed Water

Reclaimed makes up about 8% of all the water delivered by Tucson Water during a typical year. In 1994 and again in 2000, Tucson voters approved bonds to expand our reclaimed water system. These bond funds are being used to make sure that our reclaimed water system will grow as Tucson grows. Reclaimed water will continue to provide 8% of our overall annual water use in the future.

New reclaimed reservoirs and pipelines are being constructed or have recently been completed by Tucson Water at several locations around the metropolitan area to either make this resource available to new customers or to meet growing demand from existing customers.

Our reclaimed system was started more than 20 years ago. Today, water professionals from all over the world visit Tucson to study this system and learn how they can best use treated wastewater as an additional resource in their countries or cities. It's a reminder that reliable and sustainable water resources are becoming increasingly more difficult to develop in many parts of the world. Tucson Water will continue to plan, design and build to make sure our community can rely on our reclaimed water resource.